

September 24, 2018

*Via Electronic Filing*

Marlene H. Dortch  
Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 Twelfth Street SW  
Washington, DC 20554

*Re: Request by Google LLC For Waiver of Section 15.255(c)(3) of the Commission's Rules  
(ET Docket No. 18-70)*

Dear Ms. Dortch,

The Consumer Technology Association (CTA)<sup>1</sup> supports approval of Google LLC's (Google) request<sup>2</sup> that the Commission issue a regulatory waiver to allow for operation of Project Soli radars in the 57-64 GHz range, subject to the technical operating parameters found in the Google/Facebook joint letter dated September 7, 2018.<sup>3</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Consumer Technology Association (CTA)™ is the trade association representing the \$377 billion U.S. consumer technology industry, which supports more than 15 million U.S. jobs. More than 2,200 companies – 80 percent are small businesses and startups; others are among the world's best-known brands – enjoy the benefits of CTA membership including policy advocacy, market research, technical education, industry promotion, standards development and the fostering of business and strategic relationships. CTA also owns and produces CES® – the world's gathering place for all who thrive on the business of consumer technologies. Profits from CES are reinvested into CTA's industry services.

<sup>2</sup> See Request by Google LLC For Waiver of Section 15.255(c)(3) of the Comm'n's Rules in ET Docket No. 18-70 (filed Mar. 7, 2018)(Google Petition). Google's Petition also presents questions about global harmonization of standards at 60 GHz. While the Commission need not rule on this issue today, it should consider if it is taking more protectionist stances on unlicensed communications in the United States than its counterparts do abroad. More restrictive regulations could keep the latest technologies out of the hands of American consumers and push product development to other countries.

<sup>3</sup> Google/Facebook Joint Letter, ET Docket No. 18-70, submitted September 7, 2018, available at: [https://ecfsapi.fcc.gov/file/10907489822345/2018-09-07%20Joint%20Letter%20\(ET%2018-70\).pdf](https://ecfsapi.fcc.gov/file/10907489822345/2018-09-07%20Joint%20Letter%20(ET%2018-70).pdf).

In the *Spectrum Frontiers* proceeding, CTA urged the Commission to eliminate restrictions on field disturbance sensors across the 57-71 GHz band.<sup>4</sup> As noted in our comments, applications like Project Soli that use these sensors can power new innovations in wireless technology, including allowing users to interact with devices without needing to touch them.<sup>5</sup> Elimination of the total prohibition on these sensors in the band was timely, CTA explained, because the concerns that had prompted the Commission's prohibition were no longer applicable. Unlike radars of the past, today's field disturbance sensors "operate at much lower power levels and have smaller fields of influence, greatly lessening their potential for interference."<sup>6</sup> The Commission's acceptance of CTA's arguments sparked the continued development of technologies like Project Soli, which will benefit consumers and keep the United States on the forefront of technology.

While CTA is grateful that the Commission agreed that its ban on radars used for interactive motion sensing at 57-64 GHz had outlived its usefulness, power levels in the Commission's revised rules may still be too restrictive for optimal use of these technologies. Google has presented data to the Commission that it says show that Project Soli technology could coexist with Wi-Fi and other technologies that already have been deployed in the 60 GHz band.<sup>7</sup> Furthermore, Google and Facebook jointly presented parameters to allow U.S. to "have an experience sufficiently comparable to that enjoyed by users in other countries when operating today's Project Soli technology" while enabling "coexistence between Project Soli devices subject to the requested waiver and the technologies described in Facebook's prior comments."<sup>8</sup>

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<sup>4</sup> CTA Comments in GN Docket No. 14-177 *et al.* at 9 (filed Jan. 27, 2016).

<sup>5</sup> *Id.*

<sup>6</sup> *Id.*

<sup>7</sup> See Dr. Stefan Mangold, Lovefield Wireless GmbH, *Assessing the Interference of Miniature Radar on Millimeter Wave 60 GHz Wi-Fi* (Feb. 21, 2018) (attachment to Google Petition); Letter from Megan Anne Stull, Counsel, Google LLC, to Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary, FCC, in ET Docket No. 18-70 (filed June 8, 2018) (Google June 2018 Letter) (attaching Dr. Stefan Mangold, Lovefield Wireless GmbH, *Assessing the Interference of Miniature Radar on Millimeter Wave 60 GHz Wi-Fi - Supplemental Analysis* (June 8, 2018) and Qi Jiang, et al., *Measurement Study on Soli/802.11ad Coexistence* (June 2018) (Jiang et al.)).

<sup>8</sup> Letter from Megan Anne Stull, Counsel, Google LLC and Pankaj Venugopal, Associate General Counsel, Facebook, Inc. to Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary FCC, ET Docket No. 18-70 at 2 (filed Sep. 7, 2018).

Given the full consideration of relevant issues that is reflected in the record, the Commission should move quickly to grant Google relief for deployment of Project Soli technologies.

Sincerely,  
CONSUMER TECHNOLOGY ASSOCIATION

By: */s/ Rachel S. Nemeth*

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